Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph **[0006]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0006] When utilizing the low melt polymer based resins, the heat from the screws and body of the extruder tend to melt the base resin at the open feed barrel at which the resin is added to the extruder. The premature melting of the toner affects the productivity of the extruder. If the premature melting is severe enough, the extruder must be shut down and cleaned of the melted ~~extruder~~ toner before the process may continue.

Please replace paragraph **[0020]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0020] In additional embodiments, there is provided a method for preparing a toner resin. The method includes conveying the base resin to an aperture in the housing of a toner extruder, the housing surrounding a conveyor, inhibiting the heat transfer from the extruder to the base resin at the aperture, adding chemical initiator to a toner extruder, mixing the base resin and the chemical initiator within the extruder to form the mixed resin, and conveying the mixed resin within the extruder to an extruding die. Alternatively, the base resin and chemical initiator can be pre-mixed prior to the extruder.

Please replace paragraph **[0033]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0033] Referring first to Figure 2, a toner preparing apparatus 20 in the form of an extruding system is shown. The toner preparing apparatus 20 ~~include~~ includes an extruder 22 for mixing prepared resin mix with additives including very fine toner 26 and converting the prepared resin mix into a liquid form having a portion of the toner. Generally, any extruder, such as a single or twin screw extruder, suitable for preparing electrophotographic toners, may be employed for the melt mixing of prepared resin mix 26. For example, a Werner & Pfleiderer ZSK-58SC extruder is well-suited for melt-mixing the prepared resin mix 26.

Please replace paragraph **[0051]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0051] Referring again to Figure 1, toner extruder feed port insert 210 is shown. The insert 210 serves three main purposes. The first of these purposes is to isolate the heat from the extrusion process from the base resin 24. This isolation of the heat of the screws and the extruder from the base resin 24 serves to reduce the likelihood of the base resin melting and the associated problems therewith. The second of these benefits is enhanced cooling of the two vertical walls 264, which greatly reduces adhesion of the melted resin to the cooled surfaces. The melted resin is repelled by the walls and pushed back into the remaining resin, keeping the wall surfaces clear from melted resin. The third purpose of the insert is establishing the greater clearance between the screws 216 and 220 and both walls 264 of the insert 210 that is required for the polyester base resin 24.

Please replace paragraph **[0055]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0055] Furthermore, pads 272 may be placed on outer surface 274 and 294 of the walls 270 and 266 to assure the spacing between the walls 266 and 270 and the feed barrel 214. In fact, these pads may be made of an insulative material to improve the heat insulating properties even further.

Please replace paragraph **[0061]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0061] Because of the intense heat of the extruding process, the extruder 22 (see Figure 2) may generate sufficient heat that when the low melt base resin toner 24 contacts the screws 216 and 220 ~~(see Figure 4),~~ (see Figure 1), the base resin 24 may melt even with the use of the insert 210. The applicant has found by providing surface 284 with clearances between the surface 284 and the screw 220, which clearance is increased in the direction

opposite to the direction of rotation of the screws 36, the prematurely melted base resin 24 will be conveyed away by the screws 36 and not be scrapped along the periphery 278 of the screw 220 (see Figure 4). The applicant has also found that by providing surfaces 280 and 282 with clearances between the surfaces 280 and 282, and the screws 216 and 220, which clearances are decreased in the direction of flow of the extrudate 110, the prematurely melted base resin 24 will be conveyed away by the screws 36 and not be scrapped along the peripheries 276 and 278 of the screws 216 and 220, respectively.

Please replace paragraph **[0064]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0064] Downwardly traveling screw insert wall surface 284 is defined by radius R_{i3} which extends from axis 298 of insert 210. The radius R_{i3} increases steadily in size in the direction of arrow 294 which is opposite arrow 296 of the screws 36. Radius R_{i3} at position 300 is slightly larger than radius R_{S2} of the second screw 220 while radius R_{i3} at position 302 is significantly larger than radius R_{S2} of the second screw ~~22~~222 and slightly larger than radius R_{i3} at position ~~302~~300.

Please replace paragraph **[0068]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0068] The feed port insert described above isolates the extruder heat from the resin to reduce the melting of resin at the feed port. This reduction of heat of the resin reduces melting of the resin at the feed port insert and the associated problems with melted toner at the feed port. However, even this arrangement can suffer premature melting of the toner resin 24 on the screws, resulting in lump formation (see Figures 6 and 7).